The Kentucky Instructional Data System (KIDS) project is the result of a \$5.8 million statewide longitudinal data system grant from the Institute of Education Sciences. The grant program is intended to help states generate and use accurate and timely data to meet reporting requirements, support decision-making, and aid education research. Kentucky is in the second year of the three-year grant.

In line with the goals of *No Child Left Behind* to use scientifically based research data to improve education, KIDS will help districts, schools, and teachers make data-driven decisions to improve student learning, as well as facilitate research to increase student achievement and close achievement gaps.

Currently, the project is preparing for its first pilot initiative utilizing pre-K-12 student demographic and assessment data. This phase is built upon reporting requirements gathered from school districts and the Kentucky Department of Education, Education Professional Standards Board, and the Council on Postsecondary Education. Later phases in 2008 will include more indepth student data, financial, teacher certification, and postsecondary data.

The CPE is developing a new database system for postsecondary education called the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Data System (KPEDS). This represents a migration from a 30-year-old flat file database to a modern relational data warehouse. CPE has obtained the requisite hardware and software and is in the process of migrating some of the existing longitudinal data to the new system. The project is currently on schedule, and the new data dictionary draft will be complete by the end of December 2007. The database design itself will be completed in spring of 2008. Postsecondary education institutions will begin submitting data to the new system in fall 2008. KPEDS will serve as the primary source of data from postsecondary education to the proposed P-20 data warehouse project.

Several large-scale nationwide initiatives in which Kentucky participates (including the \$13.2 million National Math and Science initiative, the \$40 million GEAR UP Alliance, and the \$700,000 state-funded Project Lead the Way pre-engineering curriculum) require cross-agency tracking of student progress from K-12 into the postsecondary sector. In addition, Kentucky's revised High School Feedback Report requires time-consuming retrofitting of data records across agencies. CPE, KDE, EPSB, and the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority staff are considering standards, platforms, and design principles for a planned P-20 data system so that data from several database systems can interact more easily and less expensively than would be the case were such standards to be created after the fact.